

Iran demotes police chief, disciplines others

TEHRAN (R) — A police chief was demoted and other officers disciplined for their failure to curb riots which rocked the holy city of Mashhad last month, an Iranian newspaper reported on Monday.

As the police took part of the blame for Iran's worst riots in a decade, 10,000 "Basijis" a grassroots force under command of the Revolutionary Guards, gathered in Tehran to reassert their role in suppressing "counter-revolutionaries."

Iran's police chief General Mohammad Sohrabi went to Mashhad to replace with another officer Khorasan province's police commander, identified only as Rismanchian, and demote him two ranks, Salam newspaper said.

Several other officers, including commanders of two police stations ransacked in the riots which were sparked by a protest over squatter housing, were charged with negligence, it added.

Iran's new parliamentary speaker, Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri, on Monday joined calls for merciless punishment of rioters who wreaked havoc in Mashhad, a city of two million people in north-eastern Iran, on May 30.

"I ask the judiciary and police officials to deal with the offenders decisively. There is no room for Islamic compassion for them," he told a news conference.

More than 300 people were arrested in the violence which started when city officials tried to check building permits at an illegal building site at Tabarsi boulevard.

The ensuing riots sparked the harshest official and press criticism of police since a unified police force was set up 14 months ago, combining the traditional police and rural gendarmes with the Islamic Revolutionary Committee.

Critics of the merger said the traditional forces inherited from before the 1979 Islamic revolution would dominate the new organisation, depriving it of the ideological motivation and grassroots texture necessary for revolutionary law-enforcement.

Tehran Radio said the Basijis gathered in Tehran, University for a "show of force" meeting to display their "readiness to confront world arrogance and moves by internal counter-revolutionaries."

Mohammad Ali Movaheddi Kermani, supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's representative in the Revolutionary Guards, told the gathering that Basij was one of the principal organisations defending the achievements of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

Basij played a key part in suppressing anti-government groups in the early 1980s and in fighting the eight-year war with Iraq. Its role diminished after the 1988 ceasefire with Iraq and was further eclipsed with the police merger.

Mr. Nateq-Nouri said the Mashhad protest, which followed similar unrest in several other cities, was economic in nature but "opportunistic elements" had turned it into a riot.

Mr. Rahimpour, writing in mass-circulation Kayhan daily, said a group of "100 armed men with covered faces" was responsible for leading 1,500-2,000 rioters in a three-hour, 20-kilometre rampage.

"The burning of city cars can be attributed to wronged people, large-scale looting to professional thieves, and stealing of a pair of shoes or a sack of rice to petty thieves — but the wrecking of the Islamic Publicity Organisation building two leagues away or repeated explosions at public and private buildings 20 kilometres away cannot be blamed on residents of Tabarsi boulevard," he wrote.

Mr. Rahimpour said three groups were involved in the unrest apart from the hard-core rioters: Poor people fed up with official red tape which prevents them from building even a modest house, teenage bystanders "like the two who were shot dead," and professional thieves.

Officials had previously said only one schoolboy was killed by gunfire during the riots.

Iran reports anti-U.S. rally in Mecca

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Thousands of pilgrims held a trouble-free rally in the Holy City of Mecca in Saudi Arabia on Sunday, chanting slogans against the United States and Israel, Iran's official news agency IRNA reported.

It said the rally, called by Iranian religious leaders, was held in central Mecca. Some two million Muslims are gathering in the city for the annual pilgrimage, the Hajj, which reaches its climax on Wednesday.

There was no mention of the Iranian rally in Saudi media. There have been no reports of Iranian public demonstrations in Mecca since more than 400 people died when militant Iranian pilgrims trying to turn the Hajj into an anti-Western demonstration clashed with Saudi security forces in 1987.

Iran boycotted the Hajj for three years but allowed its pilgrims to return last year under an agreement with Saudi Arabia that permitted them to demonstrate within special camps set aside for the Iranians.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Ali Bisharat met Saudi Arabia's King Fahd in Jeddah on Saturday and was widely quoted in the Saudi media as praising Saudi arrangements for the Hajj.

IRNA said thousands of Saudi security men in uniform and plain clothes controlled the approaches to the rally but stayed several kilometres away.

It said hundreds of non-Iranian pilgrims took part in the "deliverance" rally as "a manifestation of their Islamic bonds with their Iranian brothers and sisters in faith."

"Death to the U.S." and "Death to Israel" were written in Farsi, English and Arabic on placards carried by the pilgrims, IRNA said.

The ceremony was held in Maabadi square not far from the revered Grand Mosque, and to streets surrounding the compound that harbours the official Iranian pilgrimage delegation.

Some 3,500 volunteers wearing yellow arm bands guided the pilgrims as they flocked into the square, waving flags and brandishing portraits of the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The keynote address was a message from Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that was read to the crowd by the head of the Iranian delegation, Hojatoleslam Reyskhah.

Ayatollah Khamenei, whose speech was quoted by IRNA, called on Islamic nations to unite against America.

"Backed by their invincible power, the Islamic states will be in a strong position to withstand the United States of America as leader of the anti-Islamic front of arrogance," he said.

But in line with Mr. Rafsanjani's moves to improve relations with his Gulf neighbours, Ayatollah Khamenei in his message made no direct attack against the Saudi rulers.

Nor did he call on the masses to wrest the holy sites from the Al Saud family.

After the two-hour rally, the crowd dispersed. Saudi police kept a watchful eye on the event, but from a distance, witnesses said.

IRNA quoted Hojatoleslam Reyskhah as telling the rally the biggest problem of the Islamic World was that "arrogant powers were depriving a large part of the world Muslims from their right to self-determination."

He referred to Algeria's scrapping of general elections that were widely expected to be won by Islamic fundamentalists.



PEACE MARCH: International and Israeli peace activists join hands near occupied Jerusalem ahead of a peace march. Over 100 marchers were arrested by Israeli police Saturday

Majlis speaker says no to American investment

TEHRAN (AP) — Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri said Monday anti-American sentiment was still running high in Iran, preventing the return of U.S. investment.

He said the Western media was "hasty and mistaken" in expecting a change in Iranian foreign policy after the April-May parliamentary elections in which moderates routed radicals.

Mr. Nouri was elected speaker of the 270-member Majlis (parliament) last week.

At a news conference, he said: "I believe that it is not in their (American companies) interest to make investments in Iran."

"As long as the United States maintains an aggressive spirit, the people of Iran don't even like to look at the United States," he said. "With such a spirit existing in Iran, suitable grounds for American investors don't exist."

The new Majlis is composed mostly of followers of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, a so-called pragmatist seeking to open up Iran to the West and revive the dormant private sector.

The government recently lifted restrictions on foreign investment in Iran, scrapping a law which limited foreign ownership to 49 per cent.

Hardliners led by Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, a former interior minister who lost his parliament seat in the elections, say the

motion violates the constitution of the Islamic republic.

The call for foreign investment was designed to stem growing discontent with economic hardships which triggered a number of violent riots in several large Iranian cities last month.

The protests which rocked Mashhad, Shiraz and Arak were described as the largest since the upheaval of the 1979 Islamic revolution.

A Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that 300 people were arrested in Mashhad, capital of the north-eastern Korasan province.

The diplomat and other sources said the riots broke out after government workers tried to raze illegal dwellings in the cities.

Sacred dwellings have mushroomed across the country since the revolution with corrupt officials selling forged property deeds for cheap prices.

Mr. Mohtashemi, in an interview last week, said the government must "look at the root causes which triggered the protests." He said that protests might have been legitimate, and the protesters needed sympathy, not condemnation.

But Mr. Nouri said the protests were a result of the "excessive kindness" of the government and judiciary. He called on judicial officials not to show leniency towards instigators of the protests.

Demjanjuk lawyer: U.S. unhappy with Israeli case

TEL AVIV (R) — A U.S. court decision to reopen the case of John Demjanjuk showed it has doubts about Israel's prosecution of the accused Nazi concentration camp guard, his Israeli attorney said on Monday.

A U.S. federal court in Cincinnati, Ohio, said on Friday it was reopening the case because the U.S. government may have erred in ordering him extradited to Israel to face charges he was "Ivan the Terrible," a guard at the Treblinka concentration camp in Poland.

"No my opinion, it is a clear expression of dissatisfaction of the American courts with the way the Demjanjuk case is being handled in Israel," Yoram Sheftel told Reuters.

The Israeli supreme court continued on Monday to hear summations begun last week in Demjanjuk appeal against his conviction and death sentence on charges he was "Ivan the Terrible."

Sheftel has argued Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk is a victim of mistaken identity and the real "Ivan" is Ivan Marchenko whose whereabouts are unknown. He has based his appeal on newly uncovered statements made by 37 Treblinka guards decades ago.

Last week the lawyer accused the prosecution of trying to pin other war crimes on Demjanjuk. Chief Judge Gilbert Merritt of the U.S. 6th circuit court of appeals said on Friday the case may be one of mistaken identity.

He ordered the U.S. Justice Department to file a brief by July 25 with any information it had that Demjanjuk, a former Cleveland, Ohio, auto worker, is not "Ivan the Terrible."

He gave lawyers for Demjanjuk until the same date to file anything they have showing "Ivan" was really Ivan Marchenko.

Mr. Merritt also ordered both sides to file briefs by Aug. 1 on whether the case should go back to a lower court for reconsideration of the extradition order.

"I think this particular ruling is without a doubt the most significant ruling in this case in the past 16 years," said Demjanjuk's son John, who fought the case since U.S. Nazi-hunting officials opened it 16 years ago.

"The judicial order is the first step to bringing him back to the United States," he told Reuters.

Demjanjuk, 72, was stripped of U.S. citizenship and extradited in 1986. He was sentenced to death by hanging in Israel in 1988 after five survivors of Treblinka identified him during his trial as "Ivan the Terrible."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Bush: No action on friendly fire victims

CAMP DAVID, Maryland (R) — President George Bush said on Sunday that his heart was heavy over the death of nine British soldiers in a so-called friendly fire incident by U.S. aircraft in the Gulf war, but said his administration could take no further action in resolving the case. "My heart goes out to their families," Mr. Bush told a news conference following talks here with British Prime Minister John Major. Standing with Mr. Major by his side, he said: "But I see no reason in going beyond what we've already done to fully account for this terrible tragedy of war." He said that during a meeting with families of the dead soldiers at the White House, he had talked to them "with a heavy heart," and added: "They had broken hearts." The nine were killed when an A10 tankbuster aircraft fired on two British armoured personnel carriers after mistaking them for enemy vehicles during the Gulf war in February last year. A British inquest into the deaths returned a verdict of "unlawful killing," and there were strong calls both from the families and from British newspapers for the two American pilots involved to personally give evidence. This request was refused in Washington, which said it had supplied all the relevant information.

Chad army beset by rebels

NDJAMENA (R) — Chadrian troops are fighting rebels loyal to former President Hissene Habre in the west of the country while combating guerrillas in the south and east, military sources said on Sunday. The sources said the fighting between the army and Habre loyalists at Tchoukoun-Hadje, near Lake Chad, had claimed several lives and the government had sent reinforcements to the area, on the border with Niger. Since President Idriss Deby ousted Mr. Habre in December 1990 supporters of the former leader have regrouped in the border area from where they launch sporadic attacks. Armed men who invaded last December were repulsed after former colonial master France reinforced its garrison in Chad, and there was another outbreak of fighting in the same area around Lake Chad in January. The sources said the Chadrian army was also battling to control a rebellion led by Lieutenant Kette Nodji, one of the ring-leaders of an alleged February coup attempt. They said Lt. Nodji's men had been attacking government and military offices in Logone, southern Chad. At Gdessa, in the eastern Ouaddai Region, the army has been fighting armed guerrillas, while rebels belonging to the Hadjari tribe are terrorising the central Guera region. Mr. Deby's plans to reinstate democracy have been jeopardised by repeated coup attempts and growing tribal rivalry.

Iraq may execute for theft of cables

BAGHDAD (R) — The Iraqi authorities may execute people caught stealing or damaging pylons, power cables and other parts of the national electricity grid, the newspaper of the ruling Baath Party said Monday. The newspaper Al Thawra said robberies had been reported in several Iraqi provinces. Electronic control equipment had been stolen in Saddam City on the outskirts of Baghdad and there had been thefts in the southern city of Amara, it said. "Eleven pylons on the power line between Baghdad and Kirkuk (to the north) were stolen," it added. "We urge citizens to keep an eye on electric equipment, machines, cables, pylons and insulated wire," Al Thawra quoted a source at the Ministry of Industry and Minerals as saying. "Stealing or breaking electric equipment is a big crime and the perpetrators may face the death sentence," the source added. The official press has in the past accused Kurdish rebels in the north of dismantling pylons and selling the metal to Iran.

Saudi king donates \$3m for Bosnian Muslims

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd has donated \$8 million to Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a Saudi newspaper said on Monday. The official Saudi News Agency (SPA), monitored in Cyprus, quoted the Okaz daily as saying King Fahd donated 30 million riyals (\$8 million) "from his own pocket to help the Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina." The paper said the monarch's donation "has set an example" for Saudi nationals to "give donations to their brothers in Bosnia-Herzegovina... and save those who are victims to aggression by the Serbs." Saudi Arabia called on Friday for urgent action to stop fighting in Yugoslavia and King Fahd appointed a brother, Prince Salman Bin Abdul Aziz, to coordinate emergency aid to Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina. More than 5,700 people have been killed in Bosnia since March and U.N. sanctions imposed on Serb-led Yugoslavia appear to have done little to stop the bloodshed.

Two policemen killed in Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — Two policemen were killed by unidentified assailants at the weekend in Algiers, local newspapers reported on Monday. A retired police officer was shot dead on Sunday by attackers who fled in a car, the Arabic language Essaleem said. The night before, a policeman kidnapped from his home was found dead near a cemetery in a southern suburb, said Echaab. Security forces became the target for individual attacks in mid-February after the authorities cancelled a general election which the now-banned fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front was poised to win.

Turkey holds 59 Iraqis trying to sail to Greece

ANKARA (R) — Turkish police arrested 59 Iraqis who were attempting to sail to a Greek island from the nearby Aegean port of Cesme, the Anatolian news agency reported on Monday. It quoted Ceme Sub-Governor Salih Sarman as saying that police also detained two Turkish fishermen who took money from the Iraqis, many of them women and children, to ferry them to Khios Island.

PLO says Mossad is behind murder

(Continued from page 1)

systematically tracking down and settling scores with people it suspects of being involved in the death or hijacking of its citizens.

Middle East experts in Paris said the professional-style killing suggested it was carried out by an intelligence service rather than individual gunmen.

The PLO information office in Amman said Mr. Bseiso was a member of the Revolutionary Council of the Fatah movement, the mainstream group in the PLO. His title was deputy commissioner of the security apparatus.

Born in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, he was married with three children.

The PLO statement in Tunis said: "He devoted his life to serving the revolution, the people and the valiant intifada."

Several Palestinian leaders have been attacked in recent months in Lebanon where security sources have blamed inter-Palestinian feuds.

A bomb wounded PLO military commander Sultan Abu Al Azzam, at a Palestinian refugee camp in South Lebanon early in April.

Eight bodyguards were reported wounded. Mr. Azzam, who suffered only minor injuries, blamed Israeli agents.

In January, the bullet-riddled body of a headline Palestinian official was found near a refugee camp in South Lebanon.

The victim, Samir Hammouda, 27, was a former official of a breakaway faction of the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC).

Mr. Hammouda left the breakaway faction of the FRC in April last year. The FRC, which split from the PLO in 1974, is led by Abu Nidal.

About the same time, unidentified gunmen killed a security official of the PLO in the South Lebanon port city of Sidon.

Hussain Sulaiman, an official in Force 17 — the security network Fatah — was hit by two bullets as he left his house in Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

Last December, gunmen killed a fundamentalist Palestinian leader in the southern Lebanon refugee camp of Ain Al Hilweh, triggering clashes there.

Sheikh Hisham Al Shraideh, a 38-year-old pro-Iranian Sunni Muslim cleric, was shot dead as he left a festival at the camp near Sidon.

Palestinian sources in Tunis said a PLO delegation was flying to Paris on Monday to investigate the killing and take Bseiso's body back to Amman or Cairo.

Mr. Bseiso's wife and relatives are expected to be in the delegation, the sources said.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Les Aventures de Joe
18:10 Les Tortues Ninja
18:30 Marc et Sophie
19:00 News in French
19:15 Varieties
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Accipolis New
21:10 The Palace Guard
22:00 News in English
22:30 Oscar film: "Three coins in the fountain"

PRAYER TIMES

03:51 Fajr
05:25 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:34 Dhuhur
16:14 Asr
19:48 Maghrib
21:16 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swallow, Tel. 610740
Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

Dr. In Salla Church Tel. 661757
Pentecost Church Tel. 622566
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 633541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711531
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
St. George's International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623824, 650922
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Min./Max. temp.
Amman 15 / 29
Aqaba 22 / 36
Desert 15 / 33
Jordan Valley 21 / 35
Yesterday's high temperature: Amman

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Ghaleb Zawalid 736123
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786348
Dr. Hussein Haddad 731267
Dr. Jameel Marjani 776149
Fina pharmacy 619112
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Al Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660

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Dr. Ghaleb Zawalid 736123
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786348
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Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Al Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Nabeel Abul Ota (—)
A.E. Shear's pharmacy (273625)
ZARQA:
Dr. Yousef Awad (—)

man 29, Aqaba 35. Humidity readings: Amman 29 per cent, Aqaba 28 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rasme Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 668900
Price Complaints 661776
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 767111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Rings 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-33200
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 08-33200

HOSPITALS
AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381222
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn. 6428146
Khalifeh Maternity, J. Amn. 6424412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Mafess, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 6641714
Shamsi Hospital 669131
University Hospital 843045
Al-Musharraf Hospital 66722757
The Islamic, Abdali 66612757
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajir 7771013
Al-Basim, J. Amman 7731126
Army, Marja 89161175
Queen Alia Hospital 60224020
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)83323

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (09)532025, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:00 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
06:30 Dhahran (RJ)
07:30 Muscat (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
14:10 Riyadh (RJ)
14:15 Beirut (RJ)
15:20 Baghdad (RJ)
17:00 Cairo (RJ)
18:00 Frankfurt (RJ)
18:30 Toronto, Montreal (RJ)
20:30 Vienna (RJ)
20:30 Dublin (RJ)

DEPARTURES
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:00 Amman (RJ)
07:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
08:30 Vienna (RJ)
12:45 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
12:45 Milan, Madrid (RJ)
12:50 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
13:20 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:25 Cairo (RJ)
13:45 London (RJ)
13:55 Jeddah (RJ)
15:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:15 Larnaca (RJ)
22:30 Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

16:00 Beirut, Rome (AZ)
16:15 Cairo (MS)
16:20 Riyadh (RJ)
16:30 Baghdad (RJ)

MARKET PRICES
Upplower price in this per kg.
Apple (red) 200 / 600
Banana 300 / 400
Banana (Mekamun) 300 / 300
Beans 300 / 250
Broad beans 220 / 230
Carrot 120 / 80
Cauliflower 220 / 160
Cucumber (large) 100 / 50
Cucumber (small) 100 / 50
Eggplant (green) 100 / 80
Lemon 320 / 250
Marrow (large) 600 / 500
Marrow (small) 170 / 120
Onion (dry) 140 / 80
Onion (green) 150 / 100
Peas 400 / 250
Peas (green) 220 / 180
Peas (red) 280 / 220
Pepper (hot) 280 / 220
Pepper (sweet) 220 / 150
Potato 110 / 80
Radish 120 / 100
Sage 120 / 100
Tomato 120 / 80

Other Flights (Terminal 2)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
14:10 Riyadh (RJ)
14:15 Beirut (RJ)
15:20 Baghdad (RJ)

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13:20 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:25 Cairo (RJ)
13:45 London (RJ)
13:55 Jeddah (RJ)
15:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:15 Larnaca (RJ)
22:30 Dubai (RJ)

Home News



PRINCESS LAYS STONE FOR HOSPITAL
— Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday laid the foundation stone for the Al Rasafa Government Hospital which will cost around JD 4.5 million. The 300-bed hospital, which will have a 10,000 square metre area, will serve 400,000 inhabitants in the Rasafa region, according to Mousa Al Saad, the town's mayor.

The mayor voiced the residents' delight over the project which is being implemented in the course of Jordan's celebration of the Great Arab Revolt and Army Day. Director of buildings at the Ministry of Public Works and Housing, which is sponsoring the project, presented an outline of the project which he said was being established on 128 dunams and will be completed in 1994. In the first phase of the project, there will be 100 beds but the second one will add 200 beds at the hospital which will have various units dealing with gynecology and obstetrics, paediatrics, intensive care, outpatient clinics, operation theatres, dentistry and other wings as well as a heliport. The hospital will be located next to the nursing college which is being set up. After laying the foundation stone, the Princess unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Parliament demands halt to Yugoslav strife

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lower House of Parliament Monday issued a statement condemning the indiscriminate killing of the people in Bosnia-Herzegovina at the hands of the Yugoslav and Serbian forces and demanded an immediate halt to the massacres committed on sectarian and factional basis.

The Lower House said that it strongly supported the U.N. Security Council and the various international organisations to bring about an end to the massacres and demanded that the Serbian troops and the Yugoslav armed forces be withdrawn from the Bosnia-Herzegovina region.

More than 5,700 people have been killed, 22,000 wounded and a million made homeless in the past three months in Bosnia as a result of the onslaught by the Yugoslav armed forces, according to Reuters dispatches.



Royal Scientific Society President Hani Mulki (right) and Secretary-General Mohammad Bani Hani of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Monday sign an agreement on water study (Petra photo)

RSS, ministry reach water study agreement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Monday reached an agreement under which the former will undertake a study at the cost of JD 65,000 to determine the quality of water in Jordan.

The agreement provides for the RSS to monitor the water of the Zarqa River as well as water in a number of waste water treatment plants and pools and the waste water flowing from the dumping site used by the Greater Amman Municipality.

Ministerial committee to handle agricultural issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — Government officials Monday announced the formation of a ministerial task force to deal with all problems related to the agricultural sector and to help find solutions as soon as possible.

A statement by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker set up the committee which comprises the ministers of industry and trade, finance, planning, labour, water and irrigation, supply, agriculture and the minister of state to deal with issues linked to agriculture which have lately been discussed by the Council of Ministers.

The ministers will not only debate the issues but will also take immediate measures designed to solve these problems, each in accordance with the ministerial capacity and duty and to refer to the Cabinet as a whole when matters seem to be beyond the ministers' power, according to the official statement.

Lebanon, Jordan working for Arab unity

AMMAN (J.T.) — Lebanon's Foreign Minister Faris Bouez said Monday that Lebanon and Jordan were working together to "re-establish united Arab ranks in the face of the common enemy under the current critical stage facing the Arab World."

Mr. Bouez, who had taken part in the four Arab foreign ministers' meeting in Amman in the past two days to review the Middle East peace process, made the statement upon leaving for home.

The four ministers said in a statement at the end of their two-day party that Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinians will continue the peace negotiations after the June 23 Israeli parliamentary elections but they urged the Arab League to discuss Israel's air raids against Lebanon.

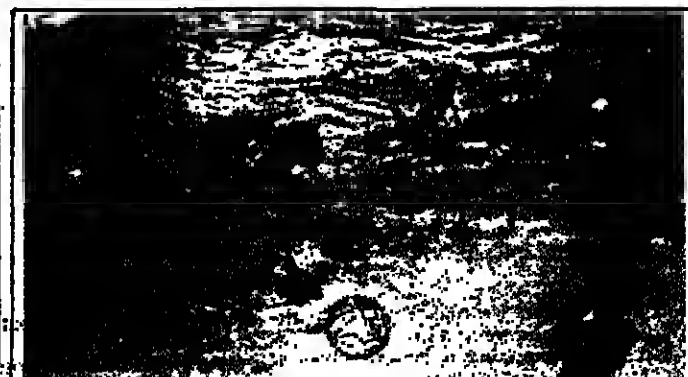
Manufacturers of Jordan can now profit from America's expertise

By Cosima Hadidi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — One Jordanian manufacturer considers exporting his tomato paste to the United States, another wants to improve the quality of his plastic pipes to fit international standards, and a third wants to assess and reform his production line to make it more efficient.

These are just a few examples of the areas in which the Export Trade Services (ETS) through International Executive Service Corps (IESC) can help Jordanian manufacturers.

ETS has two offices with full-time staff: one in Stamford, Connecticut in the United States and the other within the Jordanian Economic Development and Commercial Centres Corporation (JEDCCO) in Amman.



SCHOOL RAISES FUNDS FOR SOS — The SOS Village has been widely publicised recently with the opening of their new village in Aqaba by His Majesty King Hussein. This is a worldwide organisation caring for orphaned children depending only on the generosity of others to keep going.

Maple Leaf
Patisserie & Ice Cream

We Invite You To Taste And Decide Ask For Your Favorite

Call Us At 654907 - 624436 - Al-Sowafyya

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Senior Executive Public Health Insecticides

A well established Saudi company requires a highly motivated Senior Executive to manage the Sales and Marketing of its world famous brands of public health insecticides.

We're looking for a candidate who must be:

1. A university graduate in Agriculture and/or Public Health Sciences.
2. With at least 10 years of sales and marketing experience of Public Health Insecticides to Pest Control Operators and Institutions.
3. Fluent in Arabic and English.
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Parliament member defines 'democracy'

RAMTHA (J.T.) — Member of the Lower House of Parliament Salim Al Zu'bi described democracy as a major component of the Arab renaissance project and an indispensable tool for countering the present challenges and dangers facing the Arab nation.

In a lecture he delivered at Ramtha Charitable Society, Mr. Zu'bi said that democracy is a synonym for sovereignty of law, political pluralism, proper political representation and respect for human rights. It provides the nation and each of its countries with the means capable of empowering it to face up to the challenges.

"Democracy, even though a pressing demand cannot ensure a guaranteed solution to all the problems of Arab order, it is a precondition for solving problems

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CORRECTION

In Monday's edition, the Jordan Times published a report entitled "Fertility rate drops among Jordanian women" with missing figures about the rates. The second paragraph in the story should have read "A report by the department containing initial findings said that it was found that the fertility rate dropped from 7.7 children per woman to 5.6 between 1980 and 1990." The Jordan Times regrets the inconvenience.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Ali Tuleb and Rafiq Nashri at Abdul Hameed Shammoun Foundation Gallery — (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.).
- ★ Plastic art exhibition by 40 Jordanian artists entitled "An Artist and a Painting" at Baladna Art Gallery, Gardens Street.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Issam Tawazi at the Phoenix Gallery for Experimental Arts.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Patrice Pain at the French Cultural Centre.

THEATRE

- ★ Arabic play entitled "Laugh From Sadness" at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:30 p.m.

Jordan Times

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The View from Fourth Circle

A salute to Palestine and Arabism

By Rami G. Khouri

This week's commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in June 1967 came and went with relatively little fanfare, perhaps because the occasion is painful and humiliating for Arabs. On its three key levels — Israeli, Palestinian, and Arab — the occasion marks a period of historic change whose consequences are becoming more clear with every passing week and month. This is a moment to celebrate, rather than to mourn.

The general Arab tendency is to focus on the June 1967 war and its losses, to bemoan the meaning of a veritable catastrophe, and to remain trapped in times past. The process of political transformation over time is not sufficiently appreciated, though it must be if we are to see a full picture of the state of the Middle East and to look for a way out of present Arab turmoil and mediocrity.

The impact of prolonged occupation on Israeli society has been well documented over recent years. Its main feature has been the rise of the hardline, Likud-led right wing as the standard bearer of a peculiar brand of Zionist expansionist-settler-authoritarianism that is symbolised by men such as Ariel Sharon, Meir Kahane, and Rabbi Levinger.

In the last 25 years, Israel has been unable to deal with the basic contradiction of its attempts to sell itself as a Western-style humanistic democracy while it perpetrates the longest military occupation of the 20th Century. Suddenly, in 1992, Israel is one of the few states in the world that militarily occupy another people, including the associated practices of imposing curfews, jailing and deporting people, and generally acting in a manner that runs contrary to the global character of the times.

Its dilemma is most clearly reflected in the erosion of its standing in the United States, where the president was able to muster massive public and congressional support for his denial of Israel's request for \$10 billion in loan guarantees. This was a historic setback for the leading pro-Israel lobby in the U.S., AIPAC, which will also suffer further because many of its key congressional supporters are resigning from Congress and not seeking reelection. Much has changed for Israel in 25 years, both in the region and in its key financial-political hinterland in the U.S. — and most of the change is not to Israel's liking.

On the Palestinian level, the last quarter century has solidified the sense of Palestinian national identity and intensified the will to struggle for national rights. The persistence of Palestinian national struggle, combined with a growing sense of maturity and realism by the PLO, both reflect the basic authenticity of the Palestinian people and identity — which were manifested most dramatically in the intifada.

Now more than four and a half years old, the intifada was the critical turning point in modern Palestinian political history — the point at which the Palestinians expressed their national authenticity and their humanity in a manner that captured the attention and the empathy of the world in an irresistible, Sower-to-like manner. The intifada provided the psychological and political compass necessary for the PLO to continue its string of political compromises vis-a-vis recognising Israel and negotiating with it. This, in turn, led to the masterful Palestinian posture at Madrid and subsequent Arab-Israeli peace talks.

It is no surprise, therefore, that in the last eight months we have heard the world, especially Washington, talk repeatedly of the need for Israel to freeze settlements, and also of the validity of the concept of the Palestinian right of return and/or compensation as stipulated in U.N. General Assembly Resolution 194.

The third level — the Arab World — has also been directly and

even dramatically impacted by the consequences of prolonged Israeli occupation of all Palestine. This occupation has been coupled with other manners of Israeli humiliation and subjugation of Arabs — military clashes and occupation of lands in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan; the establishment of extra-territorial Israeli control in south Lebanon; military attacks in Iraq and Tunisia; and using the U.S. Congress to dictate the kinds of advanced arms that could be bought by Arab countries such as Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and other Gulf states.

The cumulative defeat, humiliation, and shame of the Arabs by the Israelis in the last quarter century has been an extension of the longer Zionist-Israeli denial of Palestinian national identity that dates back initially to 1948, but in fact to the mid-1980s. By the mid-1980s, nearly a century after the start of the Zionist-Palestinian and Israeli-Arab nationalist confrontations, the majority of Arabs were asking themselves: how could a few million Israelis so badly defeat and humiliate the Arab World? What was wrong with us? How could we allow ourselves to reach such a low state?

That same line of questioning after defeats in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s generally led to nationalistic romanticism that sought to blame Western powers for all our losses and catastrophes. By the mid-1980s, however, the Arab World was suffering from a series of debilitating, largely self-induced trends that affected virtually every Arab society and individual — perhaps with the exception of a few wealthy Gulf Arabs and their corporate adjuncts in the capitals of the rest of the Arab World. These negative trends included unsustainable urbanisation and rapid population growth, water shortages, high rates of militarism, high and rising unemployment and national debt, severe distortions in government control of national economies, the short-term stress of economic adjustment policies, corruption and mismanagement, the virtual collapse of public sector efficiency, mediocrity in public education, the mass intellectual, cultural and political pacification of the Arab people by self-imposed, non-accountable, usually autocratic and often authoritarian leaderships, capital flight, high dependence on foreign resources, a widening food gap, a grotesque legacy of inter-Arab quarrels and warfare, defeat and humiliation by Israel, and continued disdain and exploitation by the world's superpowers.

By the mid-1980s, our pan-Arab collapse was so severe and so obvious that it was no longer credible to blame others. The Arab people — battered, exhausted, street-wise, very aware of their great feats in the past, and therefore unwilling to live in a perpetual dream world of fantastic self-delusion that blames all their failures and losses on foreign conspiracies — started to look inward, and to ask the key questions that were never asked before: Why were all the Arab states so autocratic or even despotic? Why was not a single Arab leader elected by his people? Why was the Arab World so fragmented, and so dependent on foreign money, food, imports, and guns? Why had we become parodies of viable statehood and mere shadows of credible pan-Arab nationhood?

The prolonged occupation of Palestine was not the sole cause of this trend towards honest self-assessment and national reappraisal. But it was the common thread that ran throughout the entire 20th century, and the single most important of several causes of pan-Arab regression and failure. It was the Israeli occupation of Palestine, and the threat to neighbouring Arab states, for example, that gave many Arab regimes the excuse they needed to slide into authoritarian militarism in the period from 1950 to 1980. This, in turn, resulted in the severe distortions of government-

controlled militarism and waste that in turn saw the pan-Arab economy stumble into the mid-1980s in a state of such exhaustion, debt and dependence that only massive restructuring — at a high social cost — could redress the situation.

The political backlash to all this included the rise of Islamic fundamentalism, domestic rebellions for democracy and pluralism, the overthrow of some but not all Arab tyrants, and calls for rational Arab politics as the basis for regional integration. These trends manifested themselves in a clear manner as of the second half of the 1980s, and they continue today to drive the political transformation of the Arab World.

The current trend is very positive and promising. Despite its inconsistencies, brief reversals, and incidents of violence (Lebanon, Sudan, Somalia, Algeria, Tunisia, etc.) it will inevitably reveal a consistent trend of forward progress towards a more rational and responsive Arab political order, born of the chaos, excesses, failures, and confusion of the last half a century. I suspect that the near future — the mid-1990s — will reveal a historic synthesis between the dictates of Islamic morality, pan-Arab national identity, ethnic/religious pluralism, and the basic principles of participatory democracy, accountability of public officials, and the consent of the governed.

This will not happen suddenly or smoothly, any more than it has done so in South Africa, Romania, Yugoslavia, Iran, Thailand, South Korea, Peru, or Burma, to mention only some other countries in the process of similar transformation. But it will happen, and, in fact, is already happening in most Arab countries to some degree. Jordan and Yemen are more advanced than Tunisia and Egypt, which in turn are ahead of Mauritania and Djibouti, which are slightly in front of Syria, Iraq or Saudi Arabia.

The last quarter century of Arab history has been both rich and violent. Its most important political residue has been a capacity by ordinary Arabs to shed their illusions and romanticism, to focus inward on the root causes of their national deficiencies, and to challenge unresponsive political forces — whether those forces be their own governments, Israel, or the Western neo-colonial powers. This trend should continue to drive the Arab World in the coming several decades.

The national strength, political will, and capacity to resist of the Palestinians has been pivotal to this process. The children of Palestine and the older men of the PLO — and every Palestinian in between — deserve a small gesture of appreciation from the rest of the Arab World. In recent years the Palestinian penchant for survival and struggle in the face of enormous odds has quietly sparked parallel movements for national rebirth and revival in much of the rest of the Arab World. It is appropriate that Palestine should now be a focal point of Arab rejuvenation, just as — a century after the start of European Jewish colonisation in Palestine — it was the historical entry point for Western-backed Zionist intervention, disruption, and fragmentation in the Arab World.

On the anniversary of a great Arab catastrophe, it is important to see events in their proper historical context, rather than to dwell on the negative memories of one huge failure. The historical process is moving in a manner that is favourable to the Arab people. It is up to us to appreciate why this is happening, and why Israel is slowly being isolated as one of the world's last remaining occupying powers, and to maintain the appropriate political momentum. I can think of no better way to avenge the mistakes of the past, and to redress the defeats of the spirit that have hampered us, for so long.

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Betting on wrong horse

THE FOREIGN ministers of the four Arab parties to the peace negotiations pulled no surprise when they decided Sunday to hold the sixth round of bilateral talks with Israel after the June 23 general elections in Israel. What is more significant is the fact that this decision, taken at the end of the two-day Amman meeting, reflects the growing Arab view that the results of the Israeli elections would make or break the ongoing peace process. This assessment is predicated on the proposition that the peace process might be anathema to the Likud bloc but not so to the Labour Party.

On the strength of this supposition, some Arab circles are openly advocating support for Israeli Labour in the upcoming elections even though PLO and other Arab leaders had suggested that it would make no difference whether Rabin or Shamir would form the next government in the Jewish state.

PLO spokesman Yasser Abed Rabbo, for example, openly called Sunday on Israeli voters to cast their votes in support of the party "most likely to negotiate a lasting and equitable peace in the region" — meaning no doubt the Labour Party.

Other Arabs had echoed similar sentiments, adding credence to the proposition that the Arab side prefers the election of Rabin as the future prime minister.

This is indeed a troublesome and self-defeating posture for the Arab side to take. Suppose, for the sake of argument, peace prospects in the Middle East would be enhanced if Rabin wins the Israeli election, which is a big if, the Arab side would have acted more constructively had it refrained from expressing positions that would ultimately ruin Rabin's chances of success in the June elections. The Israeli voters cannot be expected to remain indifferent and give support to a candidate who has been openly endorsed by the Arab World. Also, the Arab side must refrain from actions that would play into the hands of Shamir if indeed Shamir is worse than Rabin for the purposes of the ongoing peace parley.

But the prime issue in this context is the continuing Arab supposition that the results of the peace process hangs in the balance of the Israeli elections. The Labour Party had been in power in Israel till the mid-seventies and had been the party that waged war on the Arab countries in 1956 and 1967. In other words, the Labour Party could have launched peace with the Arabs since the creation of Israel but chose instead to wage war against them, drive the Palestinians from their homes and towns in Palestine and start the vexing settlement programmes on Arab territories.

The war of 1967 and the years that followed were the most pivotal years for the prospects of peace in the area but the Labour leaders during those critical years chose to forsake peace and opted instead for consolidating their country's military gains. What makes the Labour Party of the nineties any better than the Labour Party of the fifties, sixties and seventies is something that cannot be taken for granted. It would be infinitely more prudent for the Arab side therefore to exercise self-reliance instead of gambling on the results of the Israeli elections.

Whether this week's Arab foreign ministers' meeting has attained this kind of self-reliance through the achievement of genuine Arab coordination and cooperation needed for the occasion is something that is still open for conjecture. Should it be necessary to wait till after June 23 in order to forge the sort of Arab unity necessary for the peace talks, so be it. If on the other hand the Arabs are delaying the sixth round simply because they entertain some hope on the outcome of the Israeli elections, they could very well end up betting on the wrong horse.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE SECOND anniversary of the imposition of sanctions on Iraq is two months away, with the Iraqi people still facing difficulties with honour and pride, but with their enemies among Arab states facing shame, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday. As certain Arab states chose to align themselves behind the colonial forces to fight the Iraqis and to deprive them of scientific achievements and continued progress, we in Jordan, can only go ahead with plans to increase our knowledge and arm ourselves with democracy and the means for development and progress, said the daily. It is shameful for those Arabs who have decided to turn their backs to their nation to continue their support for the enemies of the nation and to remain hand-in-glove with those colonial powers batching conspiracies against the Arab World, said the daily. It said that those Arab countries aligned against Iraq must have discovered by now that they themselves are the vanquished in the Gulf war despite the fact that the Iraqis remain under siege.

Those Arabs who stabbed the nation in the back have lost their pride and the values of honour and morals by siding with the enemy of their Arab Nation, said the paper. Those adhering to principles and values and honour and those who are walking with pride, and without oil, are those Arabs who came out victorious because they have safeguarded their honour and dignity and confronted the challenges with pride and honour, the paper added. The paper said that despite these facts, the vanquished Arabs are still persistent in their shameful acts, insulting others and persisting in their acts of treachery against the Arab Nation.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour tackled the question of imports and exports, calling on the government to take extra measures to further restrict imports of various commodities, ranging from meat to luxury goods. Mohammad Daoud referred in particular to an announcement about national conference, to be held here in August, to discuss means of promoting exports of national products and said that while efforts are being made to increase exports, others should be directed towards further reducing imports of various goods.

Yugoslav conflict could enmesh West, Muslim nations

By Allison Smale
The Associated Press

VIENNA, AUSTRIA — No foreign combat troops have been sent to the war raging through what was Yugoslavia, but there is danger that other countries could become indirectly enmeshed in the web of Balkan alliances and hatreds.

As the conflict deepens, countries as varied as Greece, Turkey, Albania and Saudi Arabia could sponsor allies, creating spheres of influence that would weaken Europe's only two functioning alliances, NATO and the European Community.

There are signs of two loose associations emerging, one involving Serbia and Greece, both Orthodox Christian nations.

So far, Greece has given neither military aid nor money to Serbia. But it has admitted to minor violations of international sanctions imposed on Serbia, allowing some oil trucks to go through.

It also has lent diplomatic support, as the only European Community member to attend the

ceremony on April 27 proclaiming the truncated Yugoslavia formed by Serbia and Montenegro.

The second grouping would draw Turkey and Bulgaria together with the Serbs' enemies in old Yugoslavia: The Slavic Muslims of Bosnia and southern Serbia, the ethnic Albanians of Serbia's Kosovo province, and Macedonia, a Yugoslav republic that seeks independence.

Kosovo and Macedonia, crucibles over the past century of at least three Balkan wars, are "two ticking bombs," said Ivo Banac, a Yale University history professor who is an expert on Yugoslavia.

Turkey has concluded a military alliance with Albania, many of whose citizens have Muslim roots. Although it is Europe's poorest and weakest nation, Albania would be drawn into conflict with Serbia if the ethnic Albanian majority in Kosovo revolts.

Millions of Greeks are involved in a highly charged campaign to keep Macedonia from winning independence under that name from Serbia-dominated Yugoslavia. Greeks say the name Macedonia belongs exclusively to their northernmost territories.

The EC and NATO so far have not given public warnings to members Greece and Turkey, traditional foes, that intervening in the Yugoslav chaos could cost them subsidies or even membership in the military. If such threats were delivered only after one or both of the countries acted, it could be too late.

"It is not clear that NATO can survive increasing tension between Greece and Turkey over Balkan issues," Mr. Banac said. Differences in historical ties to various parties in Yugoslavia already have sapped Europe's ability to contain the war and undermined the EC claim to a common foreign policy.

Tough U.N. sanctions came only after the United States pushed for action and delivered a virtual public rebuke to the Europeans for their ineffective response to the crisis on their continent.

The sanctions have generated speculation about western military intervention to punish Serbia, but governments largely discount it as impractical.

Even the United Nations has acknowledged that sanctions may not stop existing bloodshed or avert a much more violent explosion in Kosovo.

More than 90 per cent of Kosovo's 2 million people are ethnic Albanians, who are defying Serbian rule and repression by organising their own elections, government and alternative society.

Serbs say they will never relinquish Kosovo, site of a Serbian defeat by the Ottoman Turks in 1389 that every Serb knows as the start of 500-year struggle to preserve national freedom, dignity and the Orthodox faith under Muslim rule.

President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia might be able to rally all but his most ardent domestic opponents in a fight to keep Kosovo Serbian.

Ethnic Albanians would unite in Kosovo, Macedonia and Albania itself, possibly in the cloak of their Muslim faith, which would attract support from Slavic Muslims in Sanjak, a region straddling southern Serbia and Montenegro.

Turkey increasingly paints it-

self as a protector of Muslims to its east and west.

Bulgaria, between Turkey and Serbia, is mending relations with Turkey, in part because its post-communist government depends on an ethnic Turkish party to stay in power.

Some analysts say the broader Muslim World could rise to the defence of the Muslims in Bosnia, Kosovo and Sanjak.

For Muslim leaders, "there is a lot of political capital there," said Jack M. Seymour of the Atlantic Council of the United States, a Washington, D.C., think tank. Mr. Seymour is a former State Department expert on Central and Eastern Europe.

Already, the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference, an umbrella for the world's 1 billion Muslims, has urged member countries to withdraw ambassadors from Belgrade, capital of Serbia.

Iran, believed to supply about 13 per cent of Serbia's oil, suspended sales even before international sanctions took effect.

Saudi Arabia's immensely wealthy King Fahd lobbied behind the scenes internationally to increase world pressure on Ser-

bia, diplomatic sources in Riyadh said.

King Fahd has pledged \$5 million in humanitarian aid to Bosnia, and campaigns have started for public donations. The Saudi cabinet and media have painted the war in Bosnia as a European strike against Islam.

Some Turkish leaders have called for armed intervention to stop the bloodshed in Bosnia.

Bosnia's Muslim president, Alija Izetbegovic, who made a pilgrimage of Mecca after declaring independence in March, complains that the Muslim World is not doing enough.

Graphic television coverage of Bosnia's tragedy could inflame Muslim passions worldwide, further stoking the ethnic and religious fires that have powered the Yugoslav conflict.

Any broadening of the conflict would undermine popular belief that a new world order can prevent war in Europe.

"When you start pondering all the other questions — the implications for peacekeeping in Europe, the role of the United States — it really gets to be pretty mind boggling," Mr. Seymour said.

LETTERS

Life-saving names

To the Editor:

There are so many robberies occurring in Jordan and that frustrates many people. What frustrates them even more is the fact that the police cannot even find the house that was robbed for in Jordan the concept of having street names and house numbers has not yet been developed. Some streets do have names and some houses do have numbers, but people do not pay much attention to them.

If the street names were given prominence, people would notice and use their street name. When trying to give directions to one's house, the number of circle or name of the area is usually given. Either that or a name of a well-known market or shop.

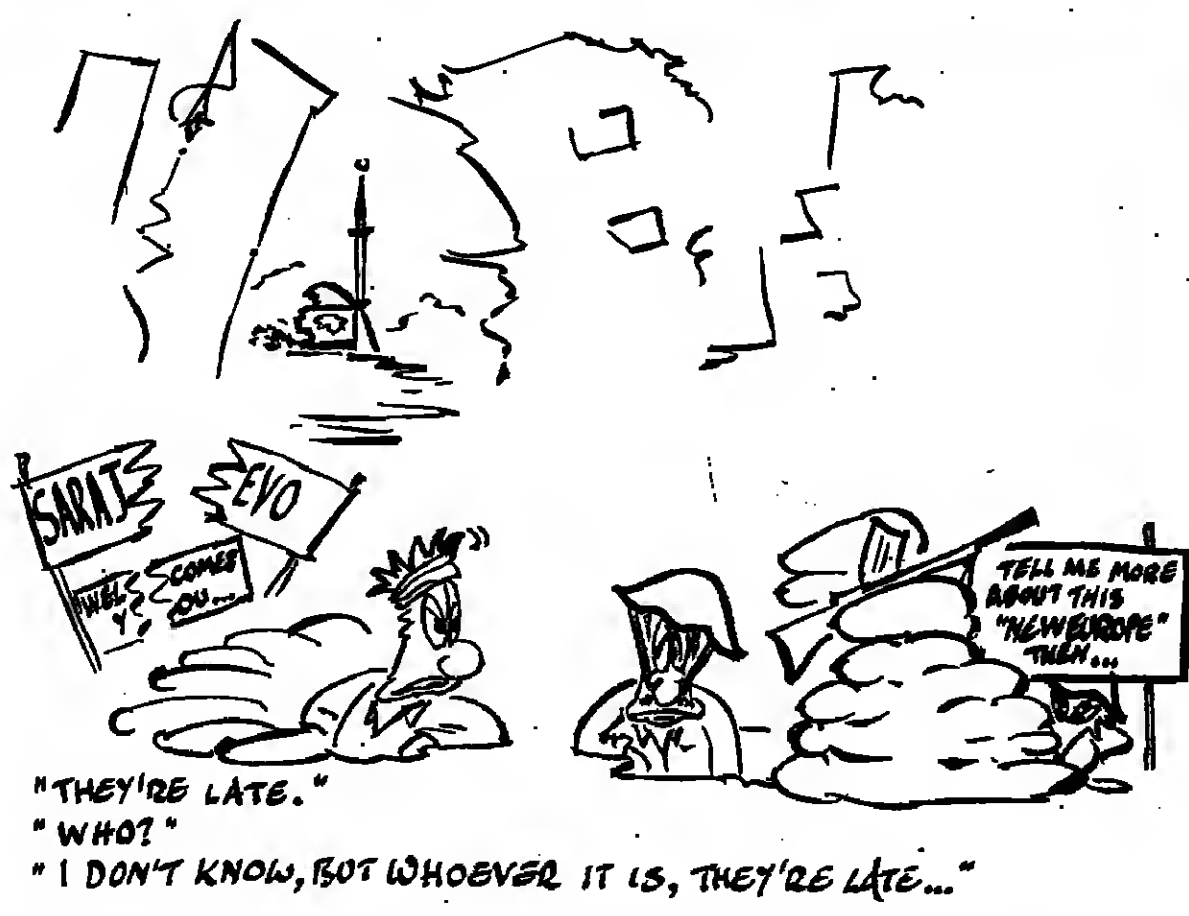
If Jordan were to have street names and house numbers clearly marked and noticeable, ambulances and police could get to the house much much faster and lives could be saved.

It will be hard at first to adapt the idea, but in a year's time it will become as common as it is in the countries that use it. This is a matter that should be considered seriously.

Amman.

(Name withheld upon request.)

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.



Civil engineers' conference tackles new techniques, draws recommendations

By Dr. Majed A. Dabbas

When the idea of convening a conference on civil engineering at the University of Jordan was first proposed in late 1990, it was intended to be a local gathering of academicians, practitioners and other interested parties to discuss the multitude of problems facing the civil engineering profession in general.

Unemployment among civil engineers was, and still is, very high. Slowdown in construction and lack of contracts awarded

was evident. Failure of certain structures, such as roads and inefficient traffic designs for roads in Amman were annoying.

So, the first brochures circulated about the conference anticipated only local audience. Unfortunately, the Gulf war started and all efforts for convening the conference were cancelled. When things settled down later on, work resumed in earnest. However, somehow to our surprise, numerous enquiries were received from outside Jordan about participation conditions. This led at once at making the conference quasi-international.

Contacts were initiated with foreign embassies to enlist their support by subsidising the presence of some distinguished professors from their respective countries. This resulted in two professors from the U.K. and one from West Germany attending the conference as keynote speakers and sharing their valuable knowledge with us.

The success achieved was beyond our expectation both at the Jordanian and Arab participation levels. More than 79 technical papers were selected for publication in our proceedings and discussion in the technical sessions. Each promoted a new idea or criticised some inefficient present situation. Examples were

drawn from more economic methods for design and construction, to new types of materials that could improve quality of construction at lower costs.

It is no secret that Jordan faces water problems, in addition problems related to the proper treatment of the millions of gallons of wastewater generated and affecting our environment.

Papers submitted in environmental engineering proposed certain solutions, which, if elaborated upon, may lead to improvements in currently used methods.

Transportation problems, whether related to the failure and design of pavements, which is common in Jordan and the Arab countries, or to the traffic jams faced each morning by drivers in many congested areas, received good attention. Examples were given from other Arab countries and solutions proposed to alleviate the congestion on our roads by suggesting better designs. The failure of pavements was considered so important that a panel discussion by experts was held as part of the conference and resulted in healthy exchange of ideas between the participants and the panelists on the reasons of road failures in Jordan.

Another topic which received great attention since it represents the core of contractors' problems in Jordan was the one related to

construction engineering and management. Again, due to its importance, a panel discussion chaired by experts in the field was held within the conference, in addition to the numerous papers given on that topic. The panelists proposed many solutions in such areas as litigation, arbitration, claims and causes of project execution delays. Benefits of arbitration over resorting to courts were highlighted. The panel identified the lack of sound knowledge by fresh engineering graduates in contract law, specification and modern management techniques to constitute a major drawback in the contracting profession in Jordan. Other critical factors may relate to the current rule of awarding contracts to the lowest bidder despite the fact that he may be underbidding on purpose, simply to get the job, regardless of the outcome in the coming months or years. This includes, the better contractor who cannot compete at such low and unrealistic prices.

Examples were cited of many contracts which went sour with unfinished projects, unhappy clients and usually a bankrupt contractor. This, in turn, leads into a long chain of claims and counterclaims with the project itself being the clear victim. Such a topic was felt to be extensive

enough to warrant convening a future workshop.

Having said this, one may wonder what benefits Jordan received from this conference. Well, the papers discussed were by themselves valuable and have definitely enriched the knowledge of all participants. Many problems were unearthed, and certain solutions proposed. In addition, local and other participants were better acquainted with each other and proposals were made for future visits and cooperation. Ideas were exchanged face to face rather than by letters. Participants from outside Jordan made clear their good impression of the standard of our university and their appreciation for the hospitality and friendly environment.

Many stressed they would like to attend more conferences in Jordan reflecting the benefit received from this one. Finally, though the objective is purely scientific, it is a fact that foreign visitors who attended will add, however little, to the economic betterment of Jordan.

The writer teaches civil engineering at the University of Jordan, and in that capacity served as secretary of the above-mentioned conference. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Israel

(Continued from page 1)

me for 8 to 10 years now, I don't think they would ever harm any Israelis. I worry more about my workers being harmed by Israelis," Mr. Schneidman said.

Israel's closure of Gaza, a common response to stabbing attacks, prompted repeated protests at the United Nations.

Also persuading Israel to ease the restrictions were military worries that a prolonged closure could fuel unrest, and the concerns of housing contractors who need the cheap labour, Israeli media said.

The Yedioth Ahronoth daily said army and intelligence officers were angry over the partial lifting of the closure.

"The strip is about to burn and the closure is a sure recipe for problems," one senior officer was quoted saying.

United Nations representatives said they had distributed food to more than 16,000 refugee families in the centre of the strip around the camp where the alleged Palestinian stabber resided. No workers from Nuseirat Camp were allowed into Israel.

About 750,000 Palestinians live in the crowded coastal strip. Before the Palestinian uprising began four years ago up to 100,000 Gazans worked in Israel. The number has now dwindled to fewer than 40,000.

Sudan

(Continued from page 1)

The Nasir rebel faction, which broke away from the SPLA last August, has urged the south secede from the north. Both factions united during the peace talks.

The government launched a successful offensive in the end of February, capturing several strategic towns long held by the rebels. Thousands of refugees have had to flee into Kenya.

The SPLA took up arms against the Muslim-majority government in 1983.



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Vacancy Announcement

The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), Amman, invites qualified candidates to apply for the following position of a temporary nature, initially up to August 1993, in the General Services Category:

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Collects and compiles economic and social data from national and inter-sources; national
2. Updates tables of statistical publications from ESCWA;
3. Contributes to the build up of the computerized data base by preparing maintaining statistical series of the data base; and
4. Makes various statistical calculations relating to data research studies by the Division; prepared
5. Utilizes the usual software on personal computers (Lotus 123, D-Base IV, SPSS, SAS, etc.);
6. Assists in the preparation and holding of meetings and seminars of the Division;

Qualifications:

1. University degree in Statistics, allied with computer training and application skills, or university degree in Computer Science allied with statistics.
2. Sound working knowledge in English and Arabic -written and spoken.
3. Professional experience is an asset.

Applications should be submitted on or before 15 June 1992. Unsuitable applications will not be replied to.

House session begins June 20

(Continued from page 1)

that has been slow on this issue," he added.

But Hussein Majali, head of the Law Committee, assured the Jordan Times Monday that "The first law on the agenda is the political parties law."

The press and publications law, Mr. Majali said "has yet to be studied to its entirety by us, but I expected that by the time we finish with the political parties law, the Law Committee will be in a position to present the House with the press and publications law."

"The alleged delay is not politically motivated, but results from doing a thorough job in studying the draft," Mr. Majali added.

The house has been discussing new laws and amendments to laws which pertain to public freedoms and the economy since the current House took office in November 1989.

Among the issues which de-

puties have put off discussing is a redistribution of electoral districts which would allow for more proportional representation in Parliament and another proposed law which would forbid deputies from becoming ministers.

The Speaker Arabayt said that these laws were "but two out of 57 draft and proposed laws that are still on the House agenda; we will try to tackle as many laws and issues as humanly possible."

Mr. Majali pointed out that "to redraw the electoral districts is to end our term before November 1993 and thus this issue will, in all likelihood remain one of the last on our agenda."

The legalisation of political parties and the redrawing of electoral districts, if it occurs, will "bring Jordan one step further to realising the full democratisation of its political system," Deputy Kawa said.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Economy

Kenyan president blames donors for dismal economy

NAIROBI (R) — Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi has blamed Western governments, who have suspended aid, and donors pressing for economic and political change, for his country's dismal economic performance.

"Suspension of aid by Western donors and governments has stagnated development projects in the country that benefit the ordinary citizen, has disrupted economic activities and hurt the economy," Mr. Moi said.

"We also have been seriously affected by the current world economic recession," Mr. Moi said.

Donors suspended aid to Kenya for six months in November saying it would be reviewed after they were satisfied that economic and political reforms were seriously taking place.

The government's annual survey last week said drought at home and recession in the west halved economic growth in Kenya last year and a further fall was expected in 1992.

It said growth of real gross domestic product (GDP) adjusted for inflation slowed to 2.2 per cent from 4.3 per cent in 1990 and from five per cent the previous year.

Mr. Moi bowed to pressure and allowed a switch to multi-party

democracy in December. The first multi-party elections in 26 years are expected before March 1993, when the term for the present parliament ends.

No date has yet been set for the polls and the West has declined to reinstate aid estimated to be worth \$800 million a year.

Mr. Moi said his government was committed to pluralism and "everything will be done to ensure fair play in the elections."

Tribal fighting in the east African nation of 24 million people and statements and activities by the opposition had also helped damage the economy, the president said.

He said the economy further slowed because the civil service and private sector had some "corruption, thefts, lack of team work, had planning and inefficiency."

Mr. Moi, 67 and in power since 1978, said that Kenyans would have to bear the pain and burden of refugees from neighbouring states troubled by civil wars and famine.

"There are now 400,000 refugees from Somalia, 54,000 from Ethiopia and 30,000 from Sudan whom we have to feed with our own resources," Mr. Moi said.

"This is more than our share," he added.

Iraqi gas production exceeds 45 per cent of pre-war level

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq, unable to export oil because of U.N. sanctions, said Monday it was producing at least 45 per cent of the natural gas it produced before the Gulf war.

Domestic demand for the gas, to run power stations and for household use, is so high that Iraq has to pump far more oil than it can sell in order to obtain the associated gas, the official English-language newspaper The Baghdad Observer said.

Iraq then pumps the surplus crude back into the ground, the newspaper said, quoting Hussein Al Hadithi, chairman of the northern region gas industry department.

"Pumping crude into wells again is an immensely difficult process. But what else can we do?" he said.

Mr. Hadithi said gas output from Iraq's northern fields alone was 240 million cubic feet (6.8 million cubic metres) a day, compared with overall production of 536 million (15.2 million cubic metres) before the start of U.N. sanctions in August 1990.

Iraq has similar gas production facilities in the south, but Mr.

Hadithi did not say whether any amounts were produced there.

"The 240 million cubic feet we produce now is for domestic use only," he added. Before U.N. sanctions, imposed in reaction to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, Iraq exported its surplus gas to both Turkey and Jordan.

Mr. Hadithi also did not say how much extra oil Iraq had to pump to obtain the gas.

The country produces about 500,000 barrels a day (b/d) of crude oil for domestic consumption, against about 3.5 million bpd before the U.N. embargo came into effect.

Iraqis also use gas for domestic cooking and heating. The government rationed gas after the Gulf war because of acute shortages but Mr. Hadithi said consumers could now buy as many cylinders as they wanted.

He said Iraq was also producing 150,000 tonnes of sulphur a year from its northern oilfields. "Before the embargo the figure was 300,000 tonnes," he added.

Iraq used to export sulphur to Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, India, China and Turkey, he said.

World Bank says Indonesia set to leave Third World

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia is ready to leave the ranks of the world's and nearly double the income of its population by the end of the decade, the World Bank said.

But it is a formidable task and Jakarta must open up its economy, be more efficient, improve local infrastructure and deal with a huge current account deficit and increasing foreign debt, it said in a confidential report obtained by Reuters.

Foreign donors will have to continue large-scale aid, at least in the short term, to help Indonesia pursue its widely-praised economic programmes.

The annual report is published before next month's meeting of Indonesia's aid donors in Paris. The World Bank recommended in fiscal 1992/93, starting April, that the donors provide about the same amount of aid as the previous year — \$4.8 billion.

"If the momentum of development can be maintained, Indonesia can realistically expect to become a solid middle-income country with a per capita income of \$1,000 (compared to the current \$370) by the end of the decade," the bank said.

"While Indonesia's sound policy-making over the past 25 years indicates the nation's potential for meeting its challenges, the agenda is formidable," it noted.

To reach this target, reduce poverty and absorb over two million people joining the workforce every year, Indonesia's gross domestic product (GDP) will need to grow 3-6 per cent a year compared to 6.8 per cent last

year.

And, while a member of OPEC, Indonesia is expected to become a net oil importer sometime in the next decade, which means much of the burden for the increase in growth will fall on the manufacturing sector and exports other than oil or gas.

The report stresses the need to reduce a current account deficit, which it forecast will be unchanged this fiscal year at \$4.5 billion or four per cent of the GDP.

But just to keep the deficit at last year's level, which the bank described as still too large, would be difficult given this year's likely drop in oil income.

"Improvement in the current account deficit and external debt indicators hinges crucially upon non-oil export growth, projected to average about 12 per cent a year over the next four years and eight per cent a year thereafter," the report says.

Among the measures the bank urged were a shift towards fiscal rather than monetary policy for control of the economy, which should help lower high rates and the resulting squeeze on local businesses and banks.

It also wants attempts to increase domestic savings to encourage economic stability. It noted high savings rates were a key factor in helping countries like South Korea and Malaysia cope with their foreign debt in the 1980s.

Foreign debt has soared 38 per cent since 1989 to about \$78 billion which the bank said unsustainable, noting the debt service

ratio this year will rise to 31.9 per cent from 30.1 per cent.

It urged Jakarta to increase competitiveness by continuing trade and regulatory reform, more efficient use of limited investment and improved government management in such areas as control of commercial offshore borrowing.

The bank said the trend towards a less regulated economy was essential and it renewed criticism of domestic trade monopolies.

The World Bank has attacked two trade monopolies run by sons of Indonesian President Suharto, saying they go against a generally praiseworthy programme to deregulate the economy.

The confidential World Bank report advised that monopolies run by Hutomo Mandala Putra in cloves and Bambang Trihatmodjo in oranges be wound up.

It also said tariff levels should be reduced and non-tariff barriers lowered in some areas of manufacturing and agriculture.

"Such developments have compromised the benefits of deregulation," the bank report said.

The comments reflected growing criticism of the business dealings of the Suharto children, including Hutomo and Bambang, in the run-up to next year's presidential polls. A general election is to be held Tuesday.

Diplomats said the report would help the critics, including sections of the military, turn the debate on the children's business dealings into veiled criticism of Mr. Suharto's 26-year rule.

Mr. Suharto, who turned 71

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.8300/10	U.S. dollar	1.8300/10
One U.S. dollar	1.1918/23	Canadian dollar	1.5900/6000
	1.7920/30	Deutsche marks	1.4518/28
	32.75/79	Dutch guilders	32.75/79
	5.3610/50	Swiss francs	1204/1206
	127.05/15	Belgian francs	127.05/15
	5.7400/500	French francs	6.2140/240
	6.2140/240	Italian lire	6.1415/515
	6.1415/515	Japanese yen	161.45/161.50
		Swedish crowns	133.80/133.90
		Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — Stocks ended weaker but off lows in dull, sleepy trade. The Nikkei average slipped 134.98 to 17,655.06. Most investors were sitting out, waiting for Friday's futures settlement.

FRANKFURT — The bourse was closed for the Whitsun holiday. Shares went into the holiday weekend at barely changed levels. The DAX ended 3.24 points lower at 1,789.07 on Friday.

HONG KONG — Profit-taking in HSBC after competitor bank Lloyds dropped out of the bidding for Midland led the Hang Seng index down 57.05 to 5,978.75.

SINGAPORE — Share prices closed easier in uneventful trade with the exception of food and beverage Group Yeo Hiap Song on takeover rumours. The STI slipped 3.14 to 1,500.58.

PARIS — The Paris bourse was closed for the Pentecost holiday. On Friday the CAC-40 index closed down 13.29 points at 1,981.58.

LONDON — Shares drifted lower, but posted sharp closing losses as market-makers reduced prices, dealers said. The FTSE 100 index closed at 2,645.8, down 22.7 points.

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks traded in a narrow range at midday with investors and traders reluctant to take positions. The Dow stood about four lower at 3,395.

Algeria plans stock exchange next year

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria plans to open a stock exchange early next year to parallel moves to privatise its economy, a senior treasury ministry disclosed.

"The exchange will be in operation, with its first operations, at the start of next year," Ben Slama Yassine, the ministry's financial director, told Reuters Sunday.

A chairman and general director have been appointed and have already visited Canada to brief themselves on financial markets and stock exchange operation, he said.

In the absence of an existing stock exchange mechanism, banks, insurance companies and holding companies, which run Algeria's state enterprises, will initially set up specialist broking units to buy and sell on the exchange on behalf of clients, the official said.

"We think that the Algerian economy is going to take off seriously in the next 10 years. We must now run in this instrument of a stock exchange which will, on a financial plane, support this growth effort," he added.

Confidence drives Philippine stocks to new record

MANILA (R) — Renewed investor confidence in the Philippines following last month's election drove share prices four per cent higher to close at a record high for the third trading day in a row, brokers said Monday.

"The market is brimming with confidence because the political horizon has cleared up," said Conrad Andres, chief analyst at Philippine Asia Equity Securities.

"We see that the upward momentum is still strong," he pointed out.

The Manila Stock Exchange composite index surged 4.1 per cent to close at an all-time high of 1,580.28, points from Friday's close of 1,517.21.

At the Makati Bourse, the index leapt four per cent to a new record of 1,614.43 points compared with Friday's 1,551.58.

The market has been buoyant since former Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos emerged as the likely winner of the May 11 presidential election.

Brokers believe it is ripe for a correction after a rapid rise but they say the decline will not be significant.

"There is room for correction because the market had risen steeply. A correction is necessary, but it is inevitable," Mr. Andres said, but added it would not be a major decline.

"The market is now into uncharted waters. It is difficult to say at what price level it will start to correct," he said.

Ansor Hagedorn Securities, one of the country's biggest stock brokerage firms, said the Manila market was expected to move in spurts this week.

"There should be enough liquidity to keep the market going despite the many occasions to take profits in the days to come," it said in its weekly analysis.

Analysts said the market may go higher once Mr. Ramos is officially proclaimed winner by congress, which has yet to complete tabulating results of the May 11 election.

The Manila composite index may reach the 1,600-point level while the Makati index may hit the 1,700 level, they said.

The share market had exhibited strength amidst possible economic setbacks linked to a serious power shortage.

Brokers said projections of sluggish economic performance in the months to come are in fact benefitting the share market.

Romania eases currency exchange rules

BUCHAREST (Agencies) — Romania has moved closer to a free-market system Monday when new foreign exchange rules liberalised the convertible currency market created seven months ago.

Under the new rules issued by the National (Central) Bank, exchange rates for the lei currency became fully liberalised on the enlarged currency market.

The central bank said in a statement the exchange rate for the lei would be set through auctions on the interbank market, where the bank would keep intervention at a minimum and "give free play to supply and demand."

This is a step forward on the money market created last November when Romania scrapped an awkward two-tier exchange system inherited from the communists and introduced internal convertibility for the lei.

Romanian firms would have free access to the new market to sell foreign exchange but would have to "properly justify" their

demand to buy foreign exchange, the central bank said.

The new rules extend the interbank currency market to foreign firms but allow them only to sell foreign exchange.

The central bank intervened to prop up the lei, which started off at 180 to the dollar when the new market was launched in November and fell to its present rate of 226 to the dollar.

Bank governor Mugur Isarescu said the currency was still overvalued.

He said that from Monday the central bank would keep its intervention to a minimum but be declined to estimate where the lei might settle in the new market conditions.

The new rules also seek to narrow the gap between interbank rates and those offered by licensed foreign exchange offices inaugurated last August, where the lei is traded at about 360 to the dollar.

The interbank market accounts for more than 95 per cent of the fledgling money market, with

foreign exchange offices taking up the remaining four per cent.

The new foreign exchange market, involving banks and licensed exchange offices, has absorbed most of Romania's black market.

At the weekend the lei was traded at 350 per dollar on the shrinking black market on the streets.

Under the new rules, Romanians can change a maximum of 100,000 lei per year compared with 50,000 previously.

The government last week began distributing free vouchers to some 16 million Romanians in a plan to transfer a 30 per cent share in state enterprises to private hands.

The programme is Romania's latest move toward a free-market system since the collapse of communism rule two years ago.

The vouchers represent shares in about 3,000 small and medium-size state-owned companies. The plan is designed to increase liquidity, a major obstacle to taking state-owned industry private.

Adult Romanians can collect their vouchers from post offices by paying about 44 cents to cover printing and distribution costs.

The vouchers represent shares spread among five special holding companies set up under Romania's privatization law to administer the company stocks.

Romanians can trade or sell their vouchers, but not to foreigners.

Officials say the actual value of holdings will be determined over time by how well the companies do, how their shares are traded and how the holding companies perform.

The remaining 70 per cent of state enterprises, including all of the largest companies, remain under the administration of the state property fund.

The voucher plan is similar to one under way in Czechoslovakia. Under the Czechoslovak plan, however, participants have more power to choose in which specific companies or private investment funds they wish to invest.

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On the other hand, we find it beneficial to draw your attention to the importance of complying with Clause 16 of the Jordanian Contractors' Law which stipulates the share of Jordanian local contractors in the tender by at least 25 per cent in terms of joint venture or as nominated sub-contractors.

Meanwhile, Jordan University of Science and Technology has the pleasure in giving a chance for international contractors who could not apply at the first advertisement to prequalify for the construction, completion and maintenance of the King Abdullah Hospital. The project consists of 15 floor cruciform tower block and horizontal low-rise buildings to accommodate around 850 beds.

Applications for prequalification are obtained from and should be submitted to: The Secretary General, Central Tendering Committee, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid, Jordan.

at or before 12 noon of Monday July 6th, 1992.

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Street fighting rages in Sarajevo

Germany appeals for end of bloodshed

BONN (R) — German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel appealed to the Serbian leadership on Monday to end the fighting in former Yugoslav states and return to the negotiating table.

"With the ending of the Communist domination, most of the states of eastern and southeastern Europe have seized the chance for freedom."

"It cannot be that the people of Yugoslavia gamble away their new-found freedom in barbarous self-butchery through ethnic disputes," Mr. Kinkel said in a statement.

He issued his appeal as rebel Serb gunners resumed their bombardment of Sarajevo, blasting the Bosnian capital from hillside strongholds while street fighting raged below with their Croat and Muslim foes.

The Serb irregulars, laying siege to the city for the past two months, fired a stream of artillery, rockets and mortars at the capital of the newly-independent Balkan state.

Columns of thick black smoke rose from burning buildings around the city. Fire-fighters were kept away by sniping and heavy shelling, the reporters said.

The centre of Sarajevo was being badly mauled and the buildings of the presidency, parliament and city hall were being repeatedly hit.

Heavy shelling and street bat-

ties were reported in the districts of Mojmilin, Ali Pashino Polje and Dobrinje, where 40,000 Serb, Croat and Muslim residents are trapped.

Sarajevo's streets were littered with rubble and shattered glass. Buildings were on fire and others were smouldering after earlier attacks. Hospitals were packed with wounded and dead.

Reporters who spoke briefly by telephone before running to shelters said the shelling resumed with full intensity before dawn on Monday and street fighting broke out at first light.

More than 30 people were killed and 100 wounded over the weekend in some of the worst destruction and bloodshed in a European capital since World War II.

The Serbs, who rebelled against Bosnia's independence in March, have vowed to capture Sarajevo — in happier days host to the 1984 Winter Olympics and now the latest killing ground in the bloody, year-long break-up of Yugoslavia.

In his statement, Mr. Kinkel said: "There is only one single way to break the vicious cycle of violence, the return to the negotiating table at the European (Community) peace conference."

"I appeal to the Serbian leadership to give a clear sign of its influence over the warring factions, especially the military, to make them lay down their arms

and put a stop to the killing."

Bomb, which has been sharply critical of Serbia, led the EC move in January to recognise Croatia and Slovenia in their bid for independence from Yugoslavia.

Last month, Germany said it had increased its assistance to people fleeing the fighting in Bosnia, making the largest international contributor of humanitarian aid to refugees in the former Yugoslav republic.

It has also given refuge to 48,000 people so far this year who fled Yugoslavia's civil war. Last year, 74,000 Yugoslav refugees were allowed into Germany.

More than 5,700 people have so far been killed in the fighting in Bosnia and 22,000 have been wounded.

The fresh round of fighting erupted in Sarajevo on Friday, after U.N. officials struck a deal with the warring factions to reopen the airport for desperately-needed relief supplies for some 300,000 trapped civilians.

But the airport, held by Serb irregulars, is unlikely to be opened until a truce is secured. The United Nations sent 14,000 peace-keeping troops to neighbouring Croatia earlier this year.

The Serbs, 30 per cent of Bosnia's 4.3 million population, rebelled after Croats and Muslims voted for independence in March, leaving the state of Yugoslavia set up in 1918.

Dole says Bush campaign unclear

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said Sunday President Bush's campaign message "doesn't seem to be getting off the ground" in the gathering strength of Ross Perot's impending independent White House campaign.

Mr. Dole, Mr. Bush's rival for their party's nomination in 1988, added his voice to those of top Republicans who are openly worrying that Mr. Bush may be unable to slow Mr. Perot's growing popularity.

Mr. Perot's potential independent candidacy dominated the news on a day on which none of the major presidential contenders was campaigning. Both Mr. Perot and apparent Democratic nominee Bill Clinton took the day off. President Bush was meeting with British Prime Minister John Major at Camp David.

At a news conference following that meeting, Mr. Bush was asked if he and Mr. Major discussed Mr. Perot.

"I cannot tell a lie, his name came up," Mr. Bush said. "I will simply say that I told him I am confident of winning. I do better when I'm fighting."

A group of Democratic and independent mayors also turned their attention to Mr. Perot, planning to meet with the Texas tycoon in Dallas to discuss the federal government's role in helping inner cities.

Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia, the house GOP whip, circulated a memo to top White House officials last week arguing that Mr. Perot, not Democrat Bill Clinton, is the force to be reckoned with in the fall.

According to the Washington Post, the memo said Republicans should realise "how deeply the American people believe the current situation ... justifies the radical gamble of a third candidate."

Asked about the memo Sunday, Frederic Malek, chairman of the Bush-Quayle campaign, said on ABC's "this week with David Brinkley" that Mr. Perot is capitalising on a potential protest vote by saying, "the government is not doing enough. We need to do more."

But Mr. Malek said Mr. Bush "feels, also, the government is not doing enough, and we need to accomplish more."

Mr. Dole said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that while Mr. Bush is "more engaged than President Reagan was, for example, in domestic policy, ... right now it doesn't seem to be getting off the ground. There's no clear message. Maybe there are too many themes."

Edward Rollins, a Republican political consultant named as Mr. Perot's campaign co-chairman last week, said on ABC that Mr. Bush's "interest is in foreign affairs. It's always been foreign affairs and will probably be foreign affairs in the future."

News President Dan Quayle, at a news conference in Indianapolis, said Mr. Perot had "made his first major political mistake" by hiring Mr. Rollins and former Carter aide Hamilton Jordan to run his campaign.

"High-priced inside-Washington handlers, Mr. Perot is not going to do you a lot of good," Mr. Quayle said. "Noting Mr. Perot's posture as a Washington outsider, the vice president said, 'Mr. outside is now going inside.'"

Morton Meyerson, a Perot senior adviser who appeared with campaign chairman Tom Luce on CBS's "Face the Nation," said campaign workers were "concentrating on getting Ross on the ballot, and we're also studying who are possible people to be vice president."

De Klerk attacks Mandela threats of mass action

SINGAPORE (R) — Threats by the African National Congress (ANC) to expand mass protests to speed up change in South Africa were "unwise and unpatriotic," South African President F.W. de Klerk said on Monday.

"We will not allow such action to bring chaos to South Africa and we will act if any laws are broken," Mr. de Klerk told a news conference at the end of a two-day visit here.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela has threatened heightened protests if de Klerk's government fails to break a stalemate in negotiations on a new, non-racial constitution.

Mr. de Klerk, responding to questions at the end of a trip which also included stops in Russia and Japan, said the government respected peaceful mass action but such threats would not solve problems.

"I am not at all pleased with the ANC's contention to upgrade mass action. In an atmosphere like we have, mass action can contribute to more violence. I think it is unwise, even unpatriotic."

"It actually casts a doubt over the integrity and sincerity of the ANC towards the negotiations," de Klerk added.

Mr. Mandela has accused Mr. de Klerk of responsibility for township violence, which the ANC says has killed 14,000 blacks since 1984, and said police should take action against the rival Inkatha Freedom Party as the cause of the lawlessness.

"Instead of pointing fingers, the political leaders within South Africa, including Mr. Mandela, should be committed to bringing the violence to an end, and not use it for their own political purposes or to score points with supporters," Mr. de Klerk said.

Mr. de Klerk said he was ready to attend talks to discuss more ways to stop the violence with Mr. Mandela and Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. The talks were proposed at the weekend by the peace committee which monitors an accord signed by the three leaders last September.

More than 1,000 people have died since that time in continuing violence between supporters of the ANC, the country's main black opposition movement, and Inkatha, which has support among the country's biggest tribe, the Zulus.

"I am of the opinion that all political leaders in South Africa should accept joint responsibility to bring the violence to an end," Mr. de Klerk said.

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Column 800000

Duchess of York losing bodyguards

LONDON (AP) — The Duchess of York has her personal police bodyguard will be withdrawn next week, apparently signalling a widening rift with her estranged husband, Press Association reported. "From then on I'll be totally alone," the duchess reportedly told a patient during a surprise private visit to a hospice in Clapham, South London. The Yorks announced in March that they were separating after five years of marriage. Public and media interest has been intense, with Britain's tabloids speculating widely about what sort of settlement the former Sarah Ferguson will secure from Prince Andrew, second son of Queen Elizabeth II. The duchess, no longer carrying out official royal engagements, moved with her daughters out of the family home at Sunninghill, west of London, several weeks ago and into a rented mansion nearby. Her remarks came during a conversation with Queenie Clark, 56, who had commented on her "nice looking bodyguard," reported Press Association, the British national news agency. The duchess reportedly replied: "It's a shame he won't be around much longer. All my protection officers are being withdrawn next week." According to Press Association, Londoner Mrs. Clark advised her: "Don't let it get you down, girl. It seems to me too many people are messing up your life. They're always nosy about your marriage. You just tell them to mind their own bleeding business." The duchess reportedly smiled and replied: "You're right, Queenie, you're absolutely right."

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